

GOOD NEIGHBORLY NEWS

ISSUE 3

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PUBLICATION

SUMMER-2006

Neighborhood Watch Block Captains:

Please distribute this newsletter to your block participants. Need a white copy? Go to our website at:

www.ci.carlsbad.ca.us
and subscribe to the newsletter or just print the current edition.

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Non-emergency
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Crime Statistic Hotline
(760) 931-2201

Other Crime Statistics
(760) 931-2279

**Police Watch
Commander**
(760) 931-2115

Traffic Unit
(760) 931-2106

Narcotics Unit
(760) 931-2193

Records Division
(760) 931-2119

Detective Division
(760) 931-2145

Senior Volunteer Patrol
(760) 931-2214

Community Services
(760) 931-2177

The Crime Prevention Unit's mission is the anticipation, recognition and appraisal of crime risk and the initiation of some action to remove or reduce it.



Back to School and Child Safety

It is back to school time and our children will be out and about, perhaps even walking or biking to school. Now is a good time to remind our children of some good safety skills.

Strangers and Dangerous Situations

Kids see strangers every day and everywhere they go. Most of these strangers are nice, normal people, but a few are not. Parents can protect their children from dangerous strangers by teaching them about strangers and suspicious behavior, and by taking a few precautions of their own.



Who is a Stranger?

A stranger is anyone that your family doesn't know well. It's common for children to think that "bad strangers" look scary. This is not true and the concept is dangerous for children.

Appealing strangers can be just as dangerous as scary looking ones, sometimes even more. When you talk to your children about strangers, explain that no one can tell if a stranger is dangerous or not just by looking at them.

Yet, your children might need the help of a safe stranger. If children need help--whether they're lost, hurt or being followed --the safest thing for them to do in many cases is to ask someone for help. Show your children which strangers they can trust and where they can find them.

Who are safe strangers?

Police officers and firefighters are

two examples of very recognizable safe strangers. Is there a local firehouse or police substation nearby? Teachers, principals, and librarians are adults children may also be able to trust, and they are easy to recognize when they're at work.

You can help your children recognize safe strangers by pointing them out as you go through everyday life; while walking to school or going to the grocery store. Also show your children places they can go if they need help, such as stores, offices and the homes of family friends. Make sure they have phone numbers to call for help.

Recognizing and Handling Dangerous Situations

Perhaps the most important way parents can protect their children is to teach them to be wary of potentially dangerous situations -- this will help them when dealing with strangers as well as with known adults who may not have good intentions.

Help children recognize the warning signs of **suspicious behavior**, such as:

- If anyone asks them to disobey their parents or do something without permission
- If anyone asks them to keep a secret
- If anyone asks your child for help. Your children should know that an adult should never ask a child for help
- If anyone makes your child feel uncomfortable in any way.

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What Else Can Parents Do?



There are a few more things parents can do to help their children stay safe.

Know where your children are at all times. Make it a rule that your children must ask permission before going anywhere. Give your children your work and cell phone numbers so they can reach you at all times.

Show your children safe places to play, safe roads and paths to take, and safe places to go if there's trouble. Encourage your children to play with others. There's safety in numbers!

Teach your children to trust their instincts. Explain that if they ever feel scared or uneasy, they should get away as fast as they can and tell a trusted adult.

Tell them that sometimes adults they know may make them feel uncomfortable, and they should still get away as fast as possible and tell an adult.

Finally, teach your children to be assertive and assure them that you will help them when they need it.

Back to School cont.

If your children encounter any of these suspicious situations, they should tell a trusted adult right a way.

You should also talk to your children about how they should handle **dangerous situations**. One way is to teach them **"No, Go, Yell, Tell."** If in a dangerous situation, kids should say no, run away, yell as loud as they can, and tell a trusted adult right a way.

Make sure that your children know it is okay to say no to an adult in a dangerous situation and to yell to keep themselves safe, even if they are indoors.

Roll play with your children, creating different scenarios and allowing your children to go through the "No, Go, Yell, Tell" steps so that your children will feel confident in knowing what to do.



A New Crime Prevention Community Alert System

As the community of Carlsbad is growing by leaps and bounds, Carlsbad Police Department has reconfigured its police beats. A beat is an area of the city where an assigned officer spends his/her shift patrolling. There are now 10 beats to Carlsbad instead of 7. The beats are further broken into reporting districts, several districts within one beat.

Further, a new computer system allows the crime prevention unit to retrieve information specific to individual beats and reporting districts. So how does this affect you?



The crime prevention unit has recently begun a program of community alerts. Neighborhood

Watch block captains were asked for their e-mail addresses and now when something out of the ordinary happens on their beat or reporting

district, the unit can send an alert e-mail.

Yet, since July only 14 percent of the registered block captains have responded to this program. If you would like to register to be part of the new alert program, e-mail the Crime Prevention Specialist at:

jsasw@ci.carlsbad.ca.us

FBI Fraud Update

06/15/06—The FBI has become aware of phishing attacks targeting users of the popular social networking web site, www.myspace.com (MySpace).

These attacks have come in the form of a bulletin titled "CHECK OUT these old school pictures...." When a user clicks on the provided link to view the pictures, his or her web browser is directed to a screen that is an exact reproduction of the MySpace login screen. However, this offer and its corresponding web site are not affiliated with MySpace.



These attacks may be a vector to introduce Malware—such as a Trojan virus—to steal financial information from recipients. And while MySpace users do not typically store financial information on their personal pages, phishers may be gambling that the login information for users' MySpace accounts is the same for other accounts at financial institutions, online auction web sites, or online payment systems.

Consumers should be very cautious when providing login information to web sites they did not directly visit. Consumers are further advised against using the same user names and passwords for their various online accounts.

Did you know you can get the latest on international travel advisories at www.fbi.gov?